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Commission for Social Development
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Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups

Draft resolution submitted by the Chair of the Commission, Sewa Lamsal Adhikari (Nepal), on the basis of informal consultations

Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and mainstreaming disability in the post-2015 development agenda

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,[1] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,[2]

Reaffirming the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[3] adopted on 13 December 2006, as a landmark convention affirming the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, and recognizing that it is both a human rights treaty and a development tool,

Recalling earlier operational frameworks, such as the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons[4] and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,[5]

[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap.I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.
[2] General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.
[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.
[4] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr. 1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).
[5] General Assembly resolution 48/96, annex.

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Welcoming the adoption of the Outcome Document of the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly held on 23 September 2013,[6] in which the Assembly reaffirmed the need for the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond, recognizing persons with disabilities as agents and beneficiaries of development and acknowledging the value of their contributions to the general well-being, progress and diversity of society,

Convinced that addressing the profound social, cultural and economic disadvantage and exclusion experienced by many persons with disabilities, promoting the use of universal design, as appropriate, as well as the progressive removal of barriers to the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of development, and promoting the equal enjoyment by persons with disabilities of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights will further the equalization of opportunities and contribute to the realization of a "society for all" in the twenty-first century,

Noting that, while progress has already been made by Governments, the international community and the United Nations system in mainstreaming disability as an integral part of the global development agenda, major challenges remain,

Welcoming the efforts of the United Nations to improve accessibility, in particular, the opening of the Accessibility Centre at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, which contributes to a disability-inclusive United Nations by facilitating the participation of persons with disabilities in the meetings of the United Nations and their access to the documentation of the United Nations,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[7]

2. *Welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development and takes note of his report entitled "Monitoring of the implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities";[8]

2 *bis*. *Welcomes* the appointment of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility, bearing in mind the need to create synergies with the existing United Nations mechanisms;

3. *Notes* the expiry of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Disability on 31 December 2014 and in this regard, decides to consider the possibility, at its fifty-third session, of another monitoring mechanism, with a view to strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in social development;

4. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to promote the implementation of the Outcome Document of the High-Level Meeting on Disability and Development and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, including by supporting the relevant efforts of Member States and other stakeholders, and to further contribute to development of a disability-inclusive, equitable and sustainable post-2015 development framework;

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[6] General Assembly resolution 68/3.

[7] E/CN.5/2014/6 entitled "Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda towards 2015 and beyond".

[8] E/CN.5/2014/7.

5. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant regional organizations and United Nations bodies and agencies to ensure that all development policies and programmes, including those regarding poverty eradication, social protection, full and productive employment and decent work, and appropriate measures for financial inclusion as well as accessible community and housing development, take into account the needs, rights and potentials of and benefit all persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others;

5 bis. *Encourages* Member States, relevant regional organizations and United Nations bodies and agencies to achieve the full application and implementation of the international normative framework on disability and development by encouraging the ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and by considering the ratification of its Optional Protocol, as both human rights and development instruments;

6. *Emphasizes* the need for measures to ensure that persons with disabilities are not subject to multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination or excluded from participation on an equal basis with others in the implementation of the international development goals, in particular women, children, youth, indigenous peoples and older persons;

7. *Decides* to continue to give due consideration to the issue of disability and development, including within the framework of United Nations operational activities, in accordance with relevant mandates, in order to enhance awareness and cooperation at all levels, including the participation, where appropriate, of United Nations agencies, multilateral development banks and institutions, and other relevant stakeholders, while ensuring coordination and avoiding any possible overlapping;

8. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations agencies and bodies, development agencies and international organizations and encourages the private sector to regard accessibility as both a means and goal of inclusive and sustainable development and therefore an essential investment that benefits all members of society; hence accessibility should be an integral part of programmes and projects relating to the built environment, transportation and information and communications technologies;

9. *Encourages* the mobilization of resources on a sustainable basis to mainstream disability in development at all levels, and in this regard underlines the need to promote and strengthen international cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, in support of national efforts, including, as appropriate, through the establishment of national mechanisms, in particular in developing countries;

10. *Also encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and all relevant stakeholders to improve disability data collection, analysis and monitoring for development policy planning, implementation and evaluation, fully taking into account regional contexts, share, where appropriate, relevant data and statistics with relevant agencies and bodies within the United Nations system, including the Statistical Commission, through appropriate mechanisms, and underline the need for internationally comparable data and statistics disaggregated by sex and age, including information on disability;

11. *Underlines* the importance of closely consulting with and actively involving persons with disabilities and their representative organizations, in the elaboration of the emerging post-2015 United Nations development agenda;

12. *Calls upon* all Governments to continue to cooperate and engage in direct dialogue with the Special Rapporteur and to provide him or her with all the relevant information needed to fulfil his or her mandate effectively;

13. *Expresses* concern at the insufficiency of resources for the Special Rapporteur and recognizes the importance of providing adequate resources for the implementation of the mandate by the Special Rapporteur;

14. *Encourages* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability;

15. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the Commission at its fifty-third session an annual report on his or her activities in implementing the present resolution.